THE DEAN TRUST
Ashton on Mersey School

NEWSLETTER

16th May 2025

Headteacher Message

Mr McConaghie
Headteacher

Examinations for Year 11 and 13 continue to run very smoothly with pupils attending booster and weekend sessions in good numbers. At this moment, we couldn't be any prouder of our young people as they are showing the resilience and tenacity needed to meet the demands of such an intense period.

As we move towards the last half term, Year 10 come into focus in terms of their responsibility and status withing the school community. I am excited at the prospect of interviewing potential senior prefects from Year 10 next Thursday. We have had over 100 applications for prefect roles which is an illustration of how our young people want to make a difference to this community and the world around them.

Kofi Annan (Former Secretary General of the United Nations) once said "You are never too young to lead, and never too old to learn." The world feels like a dangerous place right now. We need our young people. We need them to lead.

Key Dates

- Thursday 22nd May – Trafford Athletic Boys Competition
- Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th May – Year 9 Performing Arts Trip to London
- Friday 23rd May – School Closes for May Half Term
- Monday 2nd June – School Opens after May Half Term
- Friday 6th June – Year 10 Art Tip to Chester Zoo
- Wednesday 11th June – GCSE Art Exhibition, 4pm-6pm
- Monday 16th – Thursday 27th June – End of Year Exams, Year 7 – 10 & Year 12 A Level
- Wednesday 18th June – Year 11 Leavers' Assembly, 10am-12noon

Year 11 GCSE Exam Timetable

Year 13 Exam Timetable

Good Luck

Good luck to Miss Pemberton, Mr Milner, Miss Connolly, Miss Lloyd and Mr Henderson who are running the Manchester Half Marathon on Sunday to fundraise money for Cardiac Risk in the young (CRY) charity. This will be in memory of a young student from Sale High who tragically lost his life playing football for his school team at the end of last year.

Click here to donate

Year 7

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere thanks for your ongoing support this academic year. Your encouragement and partnership have played a vital role in helping our Year 7 pupils settle into secondary school life. I'm pleased to say that they have made an excellent start to the summer term—showing enthusiasm in their lessons, growing in confidence, and building positive relationships with their peers and teachers. It's been a joy to see their progress, and we are proud of how well they have adapted to the demands of a new school environment.

As we continue through the term, we would greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing the importance of maintaining high standards in both attitude and behaviour at school. This includes being respectful to staff and fellow pupils, following instructions, arriving to lessons on time, and staying focused in class. These expectations are essential in helping all pupils make the most of their learning and ensuring a positive and productive school environment. A gentle reminder from home about these expectations can make a real difference in helping your child remain on track and engaged.

Wishing you all a relaxing May half term break. We look forward to welcoming Year 7 back feeling recharged and prepared to end the school year positively and successfully.

Miss Pepper
Head of Year 7

Science

Key Stage 3

Pupils will sit exams next half term. To give themselves the best chance to show what they have learned, we would encourage them to begin preparation now using revision resources such as BBC bitesize and Active Learn.

Key Stage 4 – Year 11

Year 11 made an excellent start to their GCSE science exams on Tuesday (Paper 1 Biology) and it is great to see the pupils all working hard. We have had good attendance to the revision sessions this year, which have focused on a wide breadth of key topics, providing access to past paper questions and working on exam techniques to help prepare for the upcoming papers. On Bromcom, combined revision lists for each of the Science papers are also available with BBC bitesize links and referenced revision guide pages to support their home learning.

Please keep encouraging your child to attend the variety of revision sessions being provided on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays by different subject specialists after school (with some sessions being before school too). We will also be providing some revision the night before each exam for all pupils to attend – class teachers will inform pupils of details over the coming weeks.

This is a reminder of the remaining 5 papers coming up for GCSE science combined and triple and their dates: -

- Monday 19th May (AM) – Chemistry Paper 1
- Thursday 22nd May (AM)- Physics Paper 1
- Monday 9th June (AM)- Biology paper 2
- Friday 13th June (AM)- Chemistry paper 2
- Monday 16th June (AM)- Physics paper

REMEMBER: bring a calculator for all the science exams!

Key Stage 5

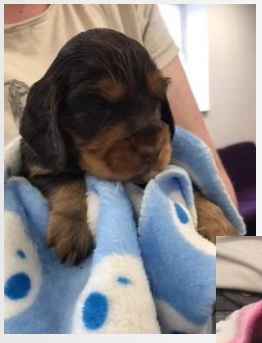
Lessons are continuing as usual for all our A-level Biology, Chemistry and Physics students right up until their final exams. Students have now completed all of their required practical components for their courses and these have been submitted to AQA. The focus now is on strong attendance at lessons to help students work on areas they require more practice of and we will aim to refine exam technique and build confidence. We wish all of our A-level science students the very best with their upcoming examinations and their next steps after sixth form.

Science

A local artist has been in to add some decorative displays to one of our buildings. Dave Draws was commissioned to create a timeline of some of the most important discoveries in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Pupils have been really impressed with the way his unique style has helped to convey the important milestones in science.

Wellbeing

Pupils enjoyed spending time with some adorable visitors to school this week.



Song Writing Workshop

KS3 were thrilled to have the opportunity to attend a song writing workshop this week with artist Molly Warburton. Molly taught the pupils how to structure and use chords in a song. The pupils then worked together in small groups to create their own song. By the end of the session every pupil performed with their group to show what they had created. Some of the songs were very impressive.

Biodiversity Garden

Our Biodiversity Garden is thriving and a host to aphid farming ants and False Oil Beetles along with lots of other mini-beasts! If you like to help out with gardening by offering a little time and energy, email Mr Gallagher to be added to the gardening rota.

Pupil Success

Congratulations to Emily and Grace in Year 9 who play netball for Trafford Juniors and were crowned 'Greater Manchester U14 Summer Champions' last weekend. They have had a fantastic season and also won the Chorley Inferno netball tournament recently. Well done!

A fantastic end to the football season for Emily in Year 9. Her team, U14 Altrincham FC Firecrests, won both the league and cup final. Congratulations Emily!

Congratulations and good luck to Sam in Year 8 who has been selected following a 10-week course, to represent Cheshire Jaguars u13 squad at the Cheshire Cricket Board's district festival over Whit half term. The team will play a series of intra county games against other district sides as well as a game against the u13 representative team from Wales Cricket Board. We wish Sam, who plays for Sale Cricket Club, all the very best for an enjoyable week.

On 1st May our amazing year 7 and 8 Maths Challenge pupils took part in the Junior UK Maths Challenge 2025. They have all worked incredibly hard to prepare for the challenge and have demonstrated a love for mathematical problem solving.

A huge well done to our participants; Anastasia, Karina, Mckinley and Sam. Congratulations to the bronze certificate pupils; Marcel, Spencer, Nivaan, Nathan and to Dante who achieved a silver certificate.

A special congratulations to Ernest who achieved gold and has been invited to take part in the follow-on challenge.

Well done to all our wonderful participants, we are very proud of you all!

Pupil Success

Members of the public praised three Sixth Form students, Charlie, Kayde and John, this morning for their kindness and compassion towards an elderly gentleman who fell in the street. Well done, we are very proud of you.

Mr McConaghie rewarded them with a Compassion badge.

SEND

	Trafford Sleep Services: Is your child struggling to sleep? Is their bedtime routine a challenge? Don't worry, Trafford Sleep Services are here to help. They provide webinars for parent carers with information and strategies tailored to suit children 2+ and those with additional needs. Click HERE to book on to one
	Support and Guidance for Parents and Carers of children aged 11 - 16 presenting with special educational needs. Secondary Starting Strong June 2025.pdf
	Triple P Is your child's anxiety causing you concern and you would like to help them? Are they aged between 6-14? Triple P Fear - less is an online course designed to support parent carers to manage their child's anxiety more effectively. Visit their Website: Triple P -Fear Less for more information. Contact us on: online.parenting@trafford.gov.uk to fill in a short survey and to receive your FREE code.
	Solihull Approach Would you like to understand more about your child's development and needs? We have a fantastic selection of FREE online programmes and resources that will help and guide you through - from baby and toddler to teenager! Please click on the titles below to start exploring, using the code WATERPARK when asked. (These are available in a number of different languages). 1. Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager 1. Understanding your child with additional needs 1. Understanding your child's feelings 1. Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing

THE DEAN TRUST
Ashton on Mersey School

Order preloved uniform online

NEW online ordering system for acquiring second hand uniform. All items **free of charge** apart from blazers*
**small cash charge applies*

- Register free of charge on www.uniformerly.co.uk
- Select AOM as your school
- All items uploaded by school are coded 'AOM00030 etc.'
- Email school with any queries: office@aom.trafford.sch.uk

UNIFORMERLY.CO.UK
Order online and collect at your convenience from the school reception

The Giving Pod
THE DEAN TRUST Ashton on Mersey School
Fundraising - Community Hub

THE DEAN TRUST
Ashton on Mersey School

Request for donations of second hand uniform

Please drop the following items at the main reception:

- **Blazers**
- **PE kit (without embroidered names)**
- **Skirts**
- **Ties**

DONATE AND ENTER OUR PRIZE DRAW TO WIN A £100 TESCO VOUCHER

TESCO

The Giving Pod
THE DEAN TRUST Ashton on Mersey School
Fundraising - Community Hub

Star of the week

Well done to all pupils who received star of the week this week, each nomination has been linked to one of our school values.

Ambition

Emily Musson, 9JEM – Nominated by Miss Pemberton for great achievement in Netball outside of school. Keep up the great work.

Grace Glynn, 9MET – Nominated by Miss Pemberton for great achievement in Netball outside of school. Keep up the great work.

Freya Procter, 10SAH – Nominated by Miss Pemberton & Mrs Bruce for showing great leadership skills during a Year 1 Primary Festival.

Tia Feltham, 10JOT – Nominated by Mr Loynd for trying her best in Spanish and never allows trickier tasks to get in the way of achieving her potential in the subject. Well done, Tia!

Avid Shinebayar, 11MAH – Nominated by Ms Ruiz for always trying her best in Spanish lessons. Keep it up!

Toby Jones, 9SAS – Nominated by Mrs Esgaio for excellent attitude towards Spanish. Always willing to try hard. Well done!

Mika Yan, 10JOT – Nominated by Mr Robson for engaging well in every History lesson and producing good quality exam style answers. Keep it up Mika.

James Jenkins, 7ROW – Nominated by Miss Lloyd for displaying excellent ambition within Cricket this week, challenging himself to tackle new skills and perform them at a high level. Well done, James!

Compassion

Doran Blake, 7PEG – Nominated by Mrs Esgaio for being very helpful in Spanish class and if he notices someone is stuck he will always offer to help!

Star of the week

Resilience

Joshua Marson, 10DAS – Nominated by Mr Moore for working hard to improve Creative iMedia coursework grade. Well done!

Morgan Hodkinson, 9ANH – Nominated by Mr Spencer for working hard on a recent assessment for Social Science demonstrating resilience and commitment to her studies.

Senna Thompson, 10JOT – Nominated by Mr Spencer for working exceptionally hard to develop the skills necessary for success in RE.

David Murray, 11IAH – Nominated by Mr Spencer for being really focused this term in anticipation of his exams improving his focus on attendance.

Kai Lind, 7PAC – Nominated by Mrs Esgaio for excellent effort in the Spanish speaking exam.

Ebrahim Taki, 11CHP – Nominated by Mrs Esgaio for working really hard for the past few weeks in preparation for the speaking exam.

Bethan Harris. 8SRS – Nominated by Mr Robson for constant hard work in History and for maintain your fantastic assessment scores.

Grace Horton, 9SPH – Nominated by Mr Gill for consistent hard work and effort in Science when finding the subject challenging.

Beth Evans, 7JEH – Nominated by Mr Gill for consistent hard work and effort in Science when finding the subject challenging.

Karl Leckey, 8SUS – Nominated by Mr Gill for consistent hard work and effort in Science when finding the subject challenging.

William Rhonor, 10RAG – Nominated by Mr Gill for consistent hard work and effort in Science when finding the subject challenging.

Jaxon Biernat-Clare, 7PAC – Nominated by Miss Martin for always working hard and trying his best in Music lessons. He has made great progress so far this year. Well done, Jaxon!

Star of the week

Resilience

Lilly-Louise Salt, 8PLS – Nominated by Mrs Evans for doing amazing with her attendance this year. It is much improved from last year. Lilly, you should be very proud of yourself.

Molly Walshe, 8SUS – Nominated by Mrs Evans for exemplarily attendance to school this year. Well done, Molly!

Benjamin Gibbon, 10LAR – Nominated by Mrs Evans for a great improved to attendance this year. Great work, Ben!

Tala Alkhatib, 12MAB – Nominated by Mr Gill for consistent hard work and effort in Science when finding the subject challenging.

Amelia Jameson, 11CHP – Nominated by Mr Gill for consistent hard work and effort in Science when finding the subject challenging.